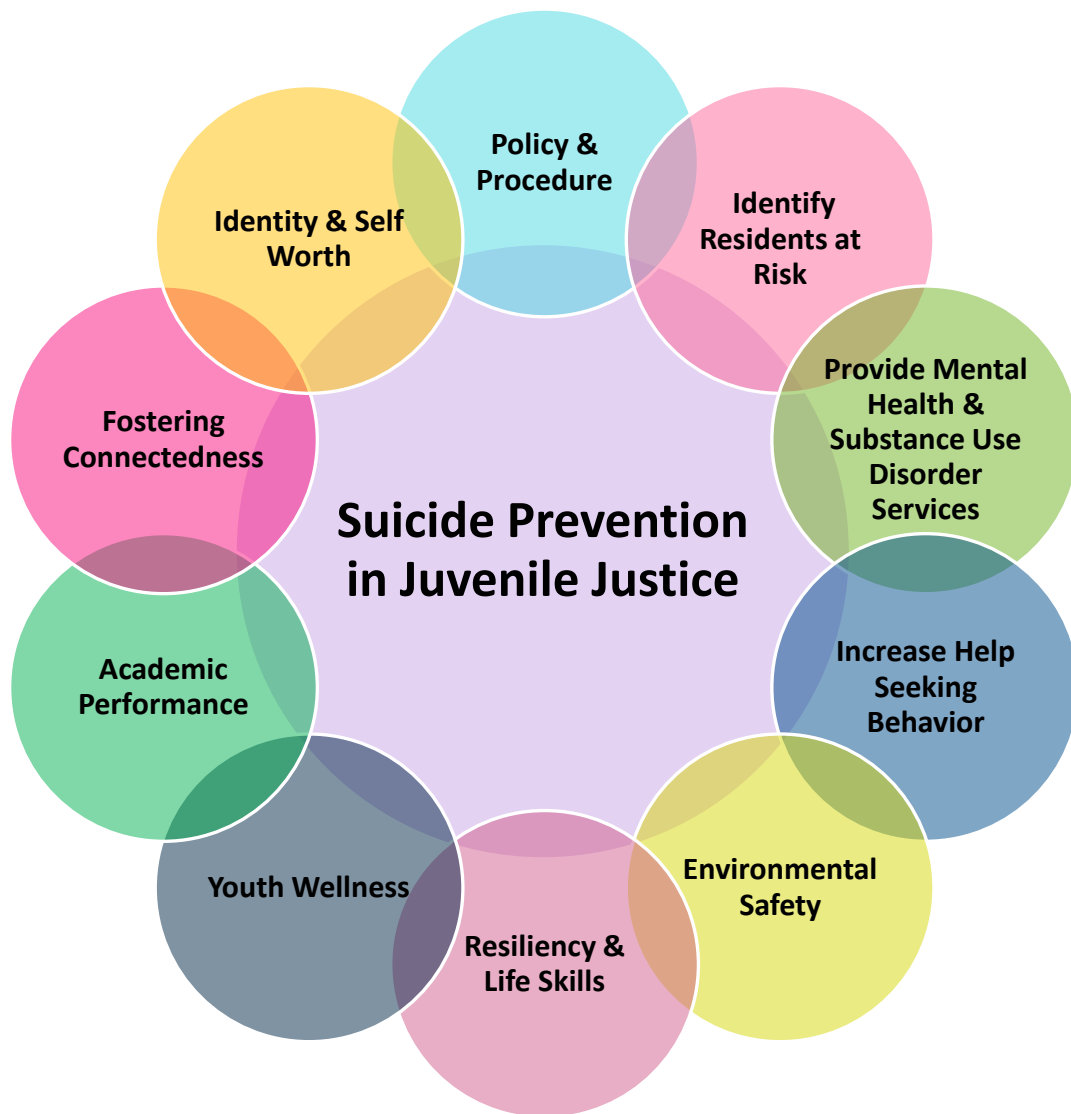


Comprehensive Juvenile Justice Suicide Prevention Components



Policies & Procedures

Developing policies and procedures can significantly improve the facilities' ability to respond quickly and effectively to mental health related incidents with minimal disruption to routines. A policy is a guiding principle used to set direction in an organization. A procedure is a series of steps followed as a consistent and repetitive approach to accomplish a result. Policies and procedures address anything that take place in facility, on facility property, and at facility activities. The policies and procedures encompass prevention, intervention and postvention.

Identify Residents at Risk

Identifying and assisting youth whom are experiencing mental health problems will reduce mental health crises and suicidal behavior (such as ideation and attempt). Strategies include gatekeeper training, suicide screening, assessment and follow up.

Provide Mental Health & Substance Use Disorder Services

Providing treatment services increases youths' success. To access timely and appropriate services facilities will need to collaborate internally and with external partners.

Increase Help Seeking Behavior

Increasing help seeking behavior requires breaking down barriers to accessing supports. Strategies include understanding what barriers exist and why and promoting mental health services and positive help seeking behaviors.

Environmental Safety

Limiting access to means by implementing educational programs, trainings and environmental strategies will increase safety and provide barriers between suicidal thoughts and access to means (such as firearm, medication, materials used in hangings and suffocations). The implementation of such strategies increase protection and reduce risk.

Resiliency & Life Skills

Providing life skill programs enhance students' overall well-being and resiliency. Strategies such as social emotional learning, health curriculums, and restorative practice programs.

Youth Wellness

Promoting youth wellness results in higher academic performance, strong relationships, improved mental health and lower substance abuse rates. Facilities that promote and encourage youth wellness support the whole youth. Some examples include providing physical activity opportunities, and art/ technical /trade programs.

Fostering Connectedness

Feeling connected results in a strong sense of belonging. Facilities that support youths' connectedness have programs that promote relationships among peers, family relationship with the facility and the facilities' relationship to other community organizations.

Identity & Self-Worth

Identifying self-worth refer to how youth addresses issues dealing with who that person is. Youth who can cultivate a clear and positive identity after their social, emotional and developmental struggles often advance more smoothly into adulthood.

Academic Performance

Implementing strategies to improve academic performance improves students' wellbeing. Supporting students' mental wellbeing improves academic performance. Strategies may include career development and college preparatory programs, and after school tutoring assistance.